



Joint Information Center – JIC Release No. 1107
August 8, 2022, 11:55 p.m. (ChST)

DPHSS Issues Guidance Memo 2022-12 Amendment 1

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Today, the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) issued [DPHSS Guidance Memo 2022-12 Amendment 1](#), pursuant to [Executive Order No. 2022-21](#), and relative to implementing mask wearing requirements and physical distancing in healthcare settings. DPHSS Guidance Memo 2022-12 Amendment 1 is not intended for non-healthcare settings (e.g., restaurants) and not for persons outside of the healthcare settings, and all other provisions of DPHSS Guidance Memorandum 2022-12 remain in effect.

Effective 12 a.m. August 9, 2022, all healthcare settings shall implement a policy for proper wearing of face masks and, where it will not interfere with the provision of care, physical distancing. Mandates in Guidance Memo 2022-12 Amendment 1 include, but are not limited to:

- **Universal and Correct Use of Face Masks**
 - Face masks shall be well-fitting that cover both the nose and mouth at the same time with proper filtration by all HCPs, patients, and visitors to prevent COVID-19 transmission through respiratory droplets.
 - Face masks shall be worn at all times, by all individuals in the healthcare settings, with certain exceptions for specific individuals, settings or activities, such as while eating or drinking.
 - Face masks shall be required in all areas of the healthcare settings, including waiting areas, hallways, elevators, restrooms, lobby, etc.
 - Healthcare settings will adopt U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for face coverings for certain populations and situations, including those with certain medical conditions
- **Physical Distancing**
 - Regardless of vaccination status, all individuals in a healthcare setting must practice physical distancing of at least 6 feet provided it does not interfere with the provision of care.
 - Healthcare settings must arrange seating so that patients and visitors can maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance.

For additional information, contact the Division of Environmental Health at 671-300-9579 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government recognized holidays, or email, dphss-deh@dphss.guam.gov. To view [DPHSS Guidance Memo 2022-12 Amendment 1](#) in its entirety, [CLICK HERE](#).

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